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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/670,371	09/26/2003	Chan-Tung Chen	3624-0131P	6894
2292	7590	09/20/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			CHAPMAN JR, JOHN E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2856	

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/670,371	CHEN, CHAN-TUNG	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	John E Chapman	2856	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the protractor (claim 3) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

The specification is replete with numerous idiomatic and grammatical errors terms. The specification should be revised carefully. Examples of idiomatic and grammatical errors in the specification are:

Page 1, line 19, "a golf club shaft must be measured its isotropy."

Page 2, line 20, "it is prolonged the process time of testing."

Page 6, line 12, "for following measuring process."

Page 8, line 2, "In static, the second end."

Page 8, line 3, "it can be retrieved."

Page 9, line 15, "is become excellent."

Claims 1-6 are objected to because of the following informality: In claim 1, line 11, "thus" should be deleted, since the step of "selecting a preferred striking direction perpendicular to the balance direction of the golf club shaft" does not follow from the step of "determining a preferred balance direction according to the minimum difference of reacting force."

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

2. Claims 1-6 are allowable over the prior art.

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Penley disclose a golf club shaft evaluator wherein a first end of the golf club shaft is clamped and the force required to deflect the other end is measured in a plurality of angular directions in order to locate the spine of the shaft. Cicarello et al. discloses a gold club spine finder wherein a first end of the gold club shaft is gripped and the flexure of the gold club shaft is measured at differing angles in order to determine that point of rotation at which the greatest and least flexure of the shaft occur during downward pressure upon the other end of the shaft. Colbert discloses a manual technique for locating the stiffest part of a golf club shaft, i.e., the seam, in order to locate the seam relative to the club head and face, possibly 90° (col. 6, lines 64-68). Weiss discloses a method for locating the effective seam in a shaft wherein the lowest number read out of a measuring device indicates the effective seam (col. 4, lines 60-65). White discloses a method of measuring the flexibility of a golf club shaft.

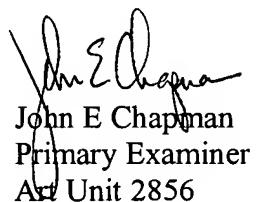
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to teach and/or fairly suggest a method of evaluating a golf club shaft wherein a first end of the golf club shaft is fixed, the reacting force of a second end of the shaft is measured in a plurality of angular directions provided on the outer circumference of the shaft, the minimum difference between reacting forces in opposite directions is calculated in order to determine the preferred

balance direction of the shaft, and a preferred striking direction is selected perpendicular to the balance direction of the golf club shaft.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John E Chapman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2191. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hezron Williams can be reached on (571) 272-2208. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



John E Chapman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2856